

National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones

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NEWS RELEASE

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Foreign-Trade Zones Board's Annual Report Shows Major Increase in Zone Activity *Significant Jump in Exports Reported*

Washington, D.C. -- In its Annual Report to Congress released Wednesday, the Foreign-Trade Zones Board documents that exports from FTZs increased by 56 percent in 2011 over Fiscal Year 2010 figures. By comparison, overall U.S. goods exported during that same period rose 21 percent.

"The data released today by the Foreign-Trade Zones Board demonstrates that both import and export activities in Foreign-Trade Zones continue to rebound strongly from the recent economic recession," said Daniel Griswold, President of the National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones. "The report shows impressive levels of growth in all areas of FTZ activity during 2011. Substantial increases in exports, merchandise received, and Foreign-Trade Zone employment across the country are a clear sign that the FTZ program is making a strong contribution to America's economic recovery."

According to the report, exports from Foreign-Trade Zones reached a record-high \$54.3 billion in 2011 -- an impressive 56 percent increase from Fiscal Year 2010, the last period for which data were published by the FTZ Board. "This remarkable level of growth significantly outpaced the nation's 18 percent total export growth over the same time period," Griswold said. Over 76 percent of these exports originated from U.S.-based manufacturing and processing operations, with the rest originating from warehousing and distribution operations.

Merchandise received in Zones reached \$640.9 billion in 2011, an increase of nearly 20 percent from FY 2010 figures. Approximately 83 percent of this merchandise was used in manufacturing and production operations, while the remaining portion was sourced by warehousing and distribution operations. The main industries participating in zone manufacturing and production activities include the oil refining, automotive, electronics, pharmaceutical, and machinery/equipment sectors.

"The FTZ Board's latest annual report confirms that companies operating through the FTZ program are contributing more than their share toward meeting the National Export Initiative goal of doubling U.S. exports between 2009 and 2014," Griswold continued.

The report also documents increased levels of participation and employment in the FTZ program, estimating approximately 340,000 employees in Foreign-Trade Zones during 2011, an increase of 6 percent over the previous year's estimate. The number of firms participating in the program also increased, to 2,800. The FTZ Board also approved three new foreign-trade zones during the

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2011 calendar year, and reorganized 38 zones under the alternative site framework (ASF).

“These figures demonstrate that FTZs continue to be effective in facilitating international trade and promoting U.S. employment,” said Griswold. “We look forward to continuing to support this successful program in the coming year.”

The complete report can be downloaded at <http://ia.ita.doc.gov/ftzpage/annualreport/ar-2011.pdf>

The National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones is a trade association of 650 members representing public and private organizations involved in the foreign-trade zones program. NAFTA is the primary voice of communities and industries that utilize the FTZ program, including zone grantees, operators and users.

Top 25 by Zone (Warehouse/Distribution Activity)**Merchandise Received**

	Zone	Location
1	84	Houston, Texas
2	68	El Paso, Texas
3	74	Baltimore, Maryland
4	168	Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
5	38	Spartanburg County, South Carolina
6	25	Broward County, Florida
7	26	Atlanta, Georgia
8	49	Newark/Elizabeth, New Jersey
9	29	Louisville, Kentucky
10	144	Brunswick, Georgia
11	70	Detroit, Michigan
12	202	Los Angeles, California
13	7	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
14	50	Long Beach, California
15	205	Port Hueneme, California
16	160	Anchorage, Alaska
17	86	Tacoma, Washington
18	35	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19	39	Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
20	64	Jacksonville, Florida
21	114	Peoria, Illinois
22	21	Dorchester County, South Carolina
23	62	Brownsville, Texas
24	79	Tampa, Florida
25	148	Knoxville, Tennessee

Exports

	Zone	Location
1	25	Broward County, Florida
2	68	El Paso, Texas
3	26	Atlanta, Georgia
4	62	Brownsville, Texas
5	114	Peoria, Illinois
6	38	Spartanburg County, South Carolina
7	94	Laredo, Texas
8	84	Houston, Texas
9	9	Honolulu, Hawaii
10	148	Knoxville, Tennessee
11	27	Boston, Massachusetts
12	32	Miami, Florida
13	257	Imperial County, California
14	35	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
15	21	Dorchester County, South Carolina
16	42	Orlando, Florida
17	160	Anchorage, Alaska
18	144	Brunswick, Georgia
19	153	San Diego, California
20	49	Newark/Elizabeth, New Jersey
21	197	Dona Ana County, New Mexico
22	143	Sacramento, California
23	123	Denver, Colorado
24	39	Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
25	70	Detroit, Michigan

